

# Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



## Newsline

A glance at news affecting Laughlin

### Chiefs induction

The 47th Flying Training Wing chiefs induction ceremony is scheduled for 6 p.m. Feb. 19 at the Club XL ballroom.

Attire for the ceremony is mess dress or semiformal. Tickets are \$10 (plus \$3 surcharge for non-members), and may be purchased from first sergeants. Deadline for purchase is Tuesday. For more information, call Master Sgt. James Ketchel at 4355.

### TAP seminar

The base Family Support Center will hold a Transition Assistance Program seminar in the FSC conference room, building 246, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

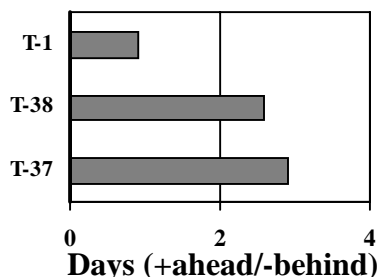
The FSC encourages all separating and retiring active duty members to attend. The seminar is also open to civilians retiring or separating, on a space-available basis.

Call Mitchel Frazier at 5620 to make your appointment.

### Mission status

(As of Jan. 27)

#### Student Timeline



Sorties flown in FY 00:  
20,044

Hours flown in FY 00:  
33,212

Pilot wings earned in FY 00:  
104

Pilot wings earned since 1963:  
11,750

## Buckle up!

### Base seatbelt usage standard is 100 percent

By Kenneth Miller

47th Flying Training Wing safety office

Chances are someone you know will be involved in a car crash this year. If unbuckled, they are 50 percent more likely to be injured or killed.

Statistics like this proves that seatbelt use is the best thing people can do to improve chances of surviving an accident. Not only is seat belt use mandatory by state and federal law, but the 47th Flying Training Wing commander, Col. Skip Scott, has set 100 percent seatbelt use as the standard. "This goal is achievable and will save lives," emphasized Scott.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Airman Teresa Ortman, 47th Mission Support Squadron, buckles up prior to driving on base.

Many people think they are good drivers and that their chances of getting into an accident are remote, but when have you ever heard anyone admit to being a below average driver?

Two accidents in Air Education and Training Command in the past six months have painfully demonstrated that not wearing a seat belt can be fatal. Of the 11

people involved in these two accidents, everyone but two people was without seatbelts. Those without seatbelts were killed, while those buckled up escaped with only minor injuries.

In these traffic accidents, there was a 100 percent fatality rate for those not wearing seatbelts. The choice is clear and simple – buckle-up.

It is important to note that both of these accidents were unanticipated. In one case, a tire on a van failed and within seconds the vehicle departed the highway and rolled and ejected the person not wearing the seatbelt from the vehicle. The person driving the vehicle was considered an excellent driver and did all he could to keep the vehicle on the road. Accidents do happen to good drivers as well.

The other important factor in these accidents is that friends driving with the individuals did not notice or take action to ensure that their friends buckled up. If driving, ensure all people riding with you buckle up prior to moving the vehicle – and that they remain strapped in until the

**See 'Seat belts,' page 10**

## Beware:

*improperly using official computers can end careers*

By Brig. Gen. (Ret.)  
Gilbert J. Regan

I want to highlight an issue that has effectively ended the otherwise promising careers of several individuals. The issue is misuse of a government computer.

My message in this regard is simple and clear – don't do it!

With the rapid growth in the World Wide Web, the Internet and electronic mail, the temptation and the opportunity to misuse a government computer have grown exponentially. From our desktop computers, we now have almost unlimited access to Web sites around the globe. This new technology has brought many great benefits for the Air Force; at the same time, abuse of this technology – and the Air Force's ability to detect abuse – have also grown.

The rules regarding computer use are set forth in AFI 33-119, *Electronic Mail (e-mail) Management and Use*; and AFI 33-129, *Transmission of Information Via the Internet*. These rules are also contained in the DoD Joint Ethics Regulation. Here are some highlights that you can cut out and place by your computer as a reminder:

**Top 10 "Do Nots" on a government computer**

**Do Not:**

■ Retrieve, view, download or send sexually explicit, obscene or offensive material;

**See "Computers," page 8**

## the inside scoop

### Diversity ...

Gen. Lloyd Newton, AETC commander, addresses diversity as we celebrate African American History Month.

**Page 2**

### Commander corner ...

Lt. Col. Rene Rendon, 47th Contracting Squadron commander, compares aviation attitude to personal attitude.

**Page 3**

### St. Valentine's Day ...

Chap. (Maj.) Frank Hamilton outlines the history of the upcoming holiday, originating in ancient Rome.

**Page 7**

# African American History Month 2000: celebrating America's diverse heritage

By Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton

Commander, Air Education and Training Command

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – As we celebrate African American History Month, I've had the chance to reflect on this year's theme, "Heritage and Horizons: The African American Legacy and the Challenges of the 21st Century." The history of African Americans in this country is one of difficulty and pain, but it is also one of courage and strength, filled with determination and hope that still inspires America and people around the world.

The tragedy and violence of slavery is woven throughout the basic heritage of African Americans, but they have overcome these conditions with courage and the strength of a

people united in bettering their lives. For example, they fought for and gained the right to fight in the Civil War.

The following quote from Frederick Douglass, a famous abolitionist, epitomized the determination and hope of these early American soldiers:

"Once let the black man get upon his person the

brass letters "U.S.," let him get an eagle on his button, and a musket on his shoulder and bullets in his pockets, and there is no power on earth which can deny that he has earned the right to citizenship in the United States."

Approximately 180,000 African Americans, in 163 units, served during the Civil War – comprising 10 percent of the Union Army. During the course of the war, approximately one-third of these men lost their lives.

The courage and strength they demonstrated in battle is part of the heritage our servicemen and women in uniform carry today. They helped fuel the determination and hope for a promising future.

The future for African Americans, as well as all Americans, is one of challenges. Our main chal-

lenge, as we rocket into the 21st century, is making sure no one is left behind. This proposal holds true in society as well as in AETC. What are you doing to help fill others with determination and hope for the future?

When Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech, people understood that it wasn't just his

dream, but his dream for America. Your challenge is to keep that dream alive for future Americans and future Air Force leaders.

So, as you reflect on the heritage and horizons of African Americans this month, remind yourself that this is one part of our American heritage.

The diverse heritages that constitute our American society have made our nation great, and serve as an example for other countries to follow. And, our diversity will continue to be our strength.

The United States military, with its diversity in personnel throughout the ranks, is a representation of America throughout the world.

Wherever we are stationed – from Asia, to the Balkans and Europe, to South America – we represent the best of what America stands for. Our challenge will always be to make diversity work for us, and help strengthen and improve our abilities as a military force.

(Courtesy AETC News Service)



Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton

## Base reviews mission and vision statements

By Col. Winfield W. Scott III

47th Flying Training Wing commander

As we begin another year, I believe it's a great opportunity to reemphasize the reason Laughlin Air Force Base exists. Our purpose is expressed through the wing's mission and vision statements.

In late December, I received a briefing on the results of a senior staff review

of these statements along with the mission essential tasks. Such periodic reviews are necessary to ensure senior leaders provide wing members clear guidance and direction. It also provides an opportunity to better articulate that information to the Team "XL" family.

Laughlin's revised mission statement is "train the world's best air warriors for

the United States Air Force and our allies." This mission statement does several things. It ensures Team "XL" does not forget our primary vocation – that of warriors committed to the defense of their country. The service we provide is that of preparing air warriors for challenges our nation will face this century. The statement allows each member of

Team "XL" to reflect on who our key customers are – the USAF and our allies.

The wing's revised vision statement is "A military and civilian team conducting the most respected pilot training operation in the world." This vision statement reflects the total support provided by the active duty military, civil service

**See 'Vision,' page 10**

### Actionline

Call 298-5351

when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

*Winfield W. Scott III*

Col. Winfield W. Scott III

47th Flying Training Wing commander



This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality

Call: I wanted to commend the base Auto Hobby Shop for the outstanding service provided over the holidays. I called on Dec. 23 and made an appointment to drop off my car. I needed to get to San Antonio that day, so I called a local rental car company to rent a car – only to find they didn't have one available. I called to cancel the car appointment and was told they would be closed until Jan. 4. I

told them I had to have the car that day, so I'd have to just hope it ran for the week. Imagine my surprise when the manager, Bill Morris, and the mechanic, Ronnie Hill, knocked on my door downtown at 11 a.m. Dec. 24. Morris told me they were concerned that my Toyota might not get through the holidays, which would leave me with a stick shift Volkswagen. They knew that my wife was unable to drive a stick shift due to a recent C-

section and didn't want her to be without transportation over the holidays. They spent 15 minutes assuring themselves that the car would run, made an appointment for Jan. 4 and wished us a Merry Christmas. That's unbelievable service – well worthy of official recognition.

**Thank You!**

Maj. Dan Wolfer

47th Operations Support Squadron

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170



**Border Eagle**Col. Winfield W. Scott III  
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7th Bomb Wing, Dyess AFB, Texas.)

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**Deadlines, Advertising**

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, Ext. 5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.** Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday. Submissions can be E-mailed to: michael.hammond@laughlin.af.mil or regional.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil Visit Laughlin's website at <http://www.laughlin.af.mil/>

***“Excellence –  
not our goal, but  
our standard.”***

– 47 FTW motto

**Safety Stats**

As of Dec. 20, 1999  
(Fiscal Year)

	'00	Total '99
On-duty mishaps	1	5
Off-duty mishaps	1	12
Traffic mishaps	0	2
Sports & Rec mishaps	1	6
Fatalities	0	0

# President Clinton calls on America to celebrate National African American History Month

**By President William J. Clinton**  
*President of the U.S.*

Each year during National African American History Month, as we explore the history and culture of African Americans, we discover anew a treasure of stories about the triumph of the human spirit, inspiring accounts of everyday people rising above the indignities imposed by prejudice.

These stories are not only an important part of African American history, but also an essential part of American history.

We are awakened to such stories through the power, beauty, and unflinching witness of poets and writers like Maya Angelou, Gwendolyn Brooks, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Langston Hughes, James Weldon Johnson, Toni Morrison and Alice Walker.

We find them in the lives and voices of Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Booker T. Washington and others who, rising above slavery, brutality and bigotry, became great American champions

of liberty, equality and dignity.

We see them written in the achievements of civil rights leaders like Daisy Bates, James Farmer, John Lewis, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Mary Church Terrell, Roy Wilkins and Whitney Young.



Forty years ago this month, a new chapter in African American history was written. On Feb. 1, 1960, four courageous young men – freshmen at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College in Greensboro – sat down at a segregated lunch counter in a local store and politely refused to leave until they were served.

Their nonviolent action challenged a barrier that, symbolically and practically, had separated black and white Americans for decades and denied equal treatment to African American citizens.

The extraordinary bravery and determination of Ezell Blair, Jr., Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil and David Richmond galvanized young men and women of conscience across America, setting in motion a series of student sit-ins in more than 50 cities.

**See 'History' page 8**

## Scheduled activities for African American History Month

**Wednesday**

The African American History Month luncheon is scheduled to begin 11:30 a.m. at Club XL. Chicken Breast Teriyaki, Rice Pilaf, Corn O'Brien, coffee and tea will be served. Keynote speaker will be Ruby B. DeMesme, assistant secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs Installations and Environment.

**Friday**

An essay contest will be judged in Del Rio High School. Winners will read winning essays.

**Feb. 22**

The door decorating contest judging will be concluded in local schools, except Del Rio High School.

**Feb. 25-26**

The third annual Black Heritage Basketball Tournament, which will include teams from surrounding bases, will take place at the XL Fitness Center.

**Feb. 25**

The 23rd annual African American History Month banquet will be held Feb. 25. at 6 p.m. at Club XL. The speaker for the event will be Joni Jordan, 47th Mission Support Squadron.

# Commander Right attitude influences positive mission decisions, performance

**By Lt. Col. Rene Rendon**

*47th Contracting Squadron commander*

I recently had the awesome opportunity to take an incentive flight in one of Laughlin's own training aircraft.

For about an hour, Lt. Col. Mike "Hi Ho" Silver, 85th Flying Training Squadron commander, showed me the ins and outs – and a lot of the ups and downs – of flying the T-37 Tweet.

Although I was a bit apprehensive about the flight, (those guys at aerospace physiology were so set on me achieving "man-seat separation!"), I was highly excited about my upcoming adventure.

As we were flying over the auxiliary airfield, Silver

stressed the importance of keeping a level aircraft attitude, that is, a view of "half sky and half ground."

In pilot language, aircraft attitude refers to the position of the aircraft in relation to the horizon. I quickly learned one of the basic principles of flying: as I pulled back on the "stick," the aircraft began to climb and its speed decreased; as I pushed forward on the "stick," the aircraft began to dive and its speed increased. The aircraft performance, that is, change in speed, was a direct result of its change in attitude, either climbing or diving. Thus, the aircraft's attitude determined its performance.

In order to change the aircraft's performance, you must first change its attitude. By this time you should be get-

ting a hint about where I am going with this article. Just as an aircraft's performance is determined by its attitude, so is our performance determined by our attitude. Everybody at Laughlin should be concerned with his or her performance. Military, civilian and contractor personnel should all be focused on excelling in our jobs. Remember the 47th Flying Training Wing motto – "excellence is not our goal, but our standard!"

Have you checked your attitude lately? How is your attitude affecting your performance? You can't improve your performance without first changing your attitude – remember the example of the aircraft. Is your attitude resulting in the level of performance you desire?

In his book, The Winning

Attitude, John C. Maxwell provides four rules to remember when your attitude begins to nose-dive:

■ Maintain a positive attitude when the going gets tough. When we hit the rough weather in our lives, our initial response is to "bail out" of our positive attitude. We tend to lose control and make decisions based on a negative attitude. We need to remember that it is during these times that a positive attitude is critical.

Usually when we "crash," it's a result of a wrong reaction or response, not the rough weather itself. It's important to remember that in times of a crisis, what really matters is not what happens to us, but what happens in us, that is, our response to that situa-

**See 'Attitude' page 8**

## The *XLer*

**Hometown:** Fort Worth, Texas.

**Family:** Daughter, Ashika, 21; son, Donnie, 16.

**Time at Laughlin:** One and a half years.

**Time in service:** 11 years in civil service and I'm retired from the military.

**Why did you join the Air Force / Civil Service family?** Because of my spouse and being retired military.

**Name one way to improve life at Laughlin:**

Build an amusement park or zoo.

**Greatest accomplishment:** My children and my civil service position.

**Long-term goals:** To manage a larger commissary.

**Hobbies:** Singing and spending time with my children.

**Favorite food:** Pizza.

**Favorite beverage:** Pepsi.

**Bad habit:** Doing job-related work when I'm off.

**If you could spend one hour with any person in history, who would it be and why?** My dad. He would be proud of what I accomplished in my life because he instilled my work ethics.



Photo by Zenaphir Bond

**Kim Reed**

*Defense Commissary Agency*

## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic

-Daily Mass 12:05 p.m.

-Saturday Mass 5 p.m.

-Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.

-Confession 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, or by appointment.

-Choir 6 p.m. Thursdays.

-Sunday school 11 a.m.,  
religious education building.

### Protestant

-General worship 11 a.m.

-Bible study video luncheon

11 a.m. Thursday, chapel  
fellowship hall.

-Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.,  
religious education building.

-Awana, Wednesdays from 6 -  
7:30 p.m.

*(For more information on  
AWANA, call Mike or Karen  
Silver at 298-3247).*

### Jewish

- Max Stool

219 West Strickland St.

Del Rio, Texas

Phone: 775-4519

The Oasis Room, (front  
entrance of Bldg. 328), is a  
place for comfort and confi-  
dential counseling! Spon-  
sored by your base chaplains!

To schedule the Oasis  
Room for small Bible studies,  
prayer meetings, or counsel-  
ing appointments with a  
chaplain, call the chapel at

### Walk-in Counseling

Monday 2 - 4 p.m.

Tuesday 2 - 3 p.m.

Wednesday 10 - 11 a.m.

Thursday 9 - 10 a.m.

Friday 1 - 3 p.m.

5111 or the Oasis Room at  
4975 during the hours listed  
above.

*For more information on chapel events and services, call 5111.*

# African-American inventor: Garret Morgan

Garrett Augustus Morgan, (1877-1963) was born in Paris, Kentucky to former slaves.

Morgan received wide recognition for outstanding contributions to public safety. Among these contributions was the invention of the first operational gas mask.

Firefighters in many cities in the early 1900’s wore the safety helmets and gas masks he invented.

The gas mask Morgan invented was designed specifically to protect soldiers from chlorine gas fumes during World War I.

He was awarded a gold medal at the

Second International Exposition of Safety and Sanitation in New York in 1914 for this invention.

In 1916, Morgan used his own mask design to rescue men trapped by a gas explosion in a tunnel being constructed under Lake Erie.

Following the disaster, which killed twenty-one people, Garrett Morgan was honored with a gold medal for his heroic efforts.

In 1923, Morgan received a patent for a new concept which would drastically reduce the amount of automobile and traffic-related accidents. This concept was the first traffic light.

Go and Stop signs were systematically raised and lowered at intersections to bring order out of the chaos of regulating pedestrian and vehicle traffic on city streets. With the arrival of this invention, this cumbersome routine could be eliminated.

Morgan’s invention design led to the light signal devices used today.

Though the traffic light was his most recognized invention, Morgan also developed a zigzag stitching attachment for manually operated sewing machines, which is one of the many innovations he manufactured and produced commercially throughout the remaining years of his life as an inventor.



## AFPC website great tool for Air Force members

The more Air Force people understand about the Air Force Personnel Center's web page, the more they can use it to their advantage - as a daily working tool.

With an average of 11 million hits per month, the center's web site is not a secret. However, knowing what's available, may be.

"Whether you're looking for information on common programs like assignments or promotions, or the not-so-common astronaut nomination board, you can find it on the AFPC web page," said Horst Kelly, AFPC executive director.

"There's something for everyone. They just need to know that the information's available and where they can find it. It's an especially good tool for commanders to use to mentor their people."

Information is broken down into several different categories including officers, enlisted, civilians and retirees. There are also several general information sites.

Links found under the officer category include the Air Force Assignment System, career path guide, joint assignments, line officer accessions, Phoenix Aviator, Professional Military Education, promotions, retention and special flying programs.

Officers who have accounts established in the Assignment Management System can update their assignment preference worksheet, an individual's and commander's formal input into the assignment process. With more than 51,000 accounts and an average of 6,700 log ins per day, the web site also provides officers with information on their career field dynamics through the officer assignment team home pages.

Officers can also find frequently asked questions regarding promotions, promotion board schedules, results and information and promotion statistics posted to the web.

Information found under the enlisted category includes assignments, benefits, promotions, retraining, se-

lective reenlistment bonuses, testing and training.

An enlisted person wanting to find out how the assignment system works can find information on 23 different topics relating to assignments. They range from the Assignment Distribution System, Enlisted Quarterly Assignments Listing and First Sergeant Duty to the Humanitarian Reassignment and Deferment Program and CONUS Assignment SWAP Program.

"Anything and everything relating to enlisted assignments can be found on the web site," said Fred

Beard, Chief Airman Management Branch. "If they can't find the information they're looking for and their military personnel flights are not able to assist them, we have e-mail links for our assignment teams."

In fact, the enlisted assignments division received 630,000 e-mails and 450,000 phone calls

last year alone. They average more than 900,000 hits per month.

Under the promotions site, individuals will find promotion fact sheets and lists, cutoff and average scores, line number history and general promotion information.

There are also several sites for civilian employees including the Acquisition Career Management System, Air Force Civilian Personnel Management Information System, civilian employment (job kit), career programs, demographics and Palace Compass.

There are also several sites where people can download demographics or get general information on different Air Force programs. These include the Air Force Locator Service, Air Force surveys, training, awards and decorations, casualty services, classification, DEERS/TRICARE, dress and appearance, missing persons, personnel readiness, personnel statistics, voting and fundraising and evaluations. All this and more can be found on the AFPC web page at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil).

(Courtesy AFPC)

***"Whether you're looking for information on common programs like assignments or promotions, or the not-so-common astronaut nomination board, you can find it on the AFPC web page."***

***—Horst Kelly***  
*AFPC executive director*

## Travel card to become mandatory March 1

Air Force financial officials are continuing to work with the Department of Defense on details regarding the use of a government Visa travel card for all federal employees.

Use of the government Visa travel card by all federal employees becomes mandatory March 1, according to revised policies dictated by the Travel and Transportation Reform Act of 1998. At that time, federal employees will no longer have choice of using their personal credit charge cards for authorized expenses while on official travel.

The government Visa card offers federal employees the advantage of wider acceptance from merchants and ATMs than the American Express card. In addition, it will reduce travel costs to the government through discounts and rebates.

However, military and civilian Air Force members and their commanders have raised questions ranging from man-



Use of the government Visa travel card by all federal employees becomes mandatory March 1.

datory use of the card to privacy issues. Air Force finance officials said they are addressing each of these issues and will distribute guidance to the field before March 1.

"I urge all members to apply for their government travel card if they have not yet done so," said Michael Weber, travel coordinator for the Air Force. "The card offers tangible benefits to our Air Force members and stretches the Air Force's limited travel budget."

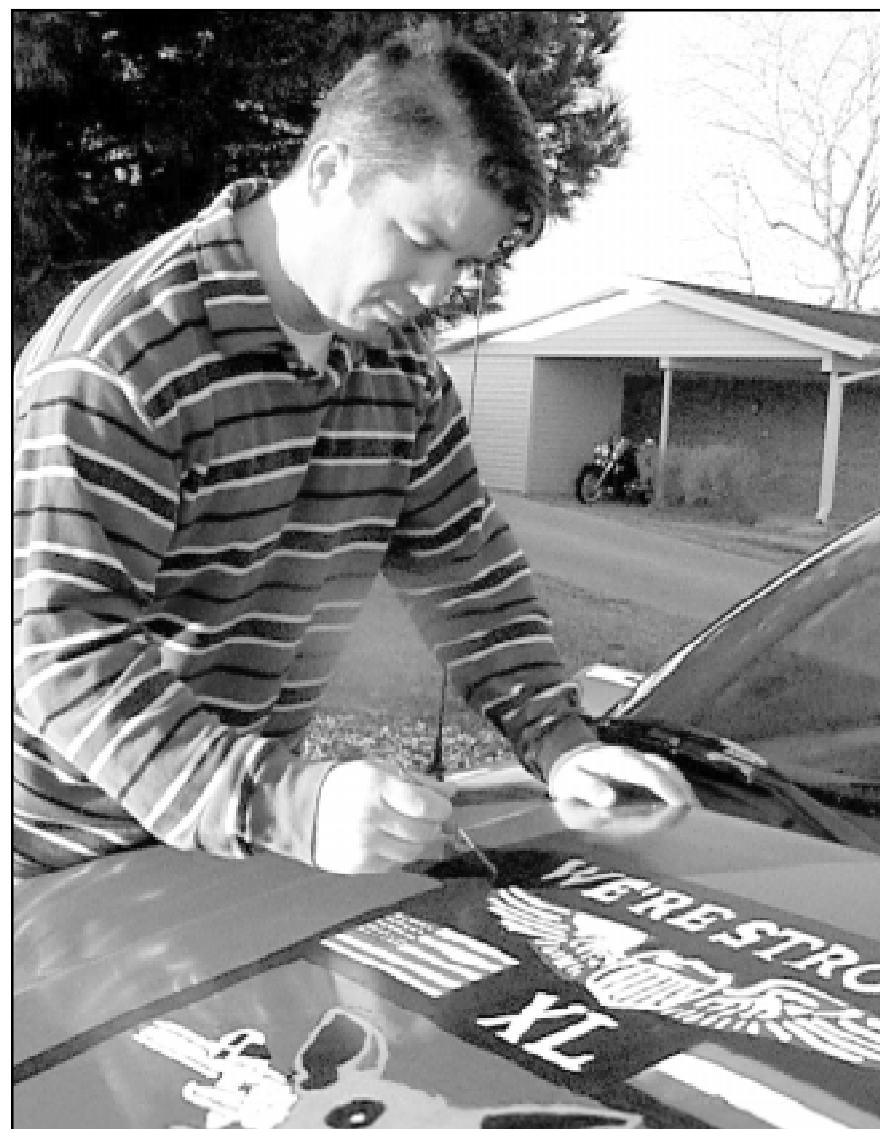


Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

## Different strokes

Capt. Mark Haddorff, 86th Flying Training Squadron, puts finishing touches on a class car he and his fellow student pilots painted. The car was decorated to promote camaraderie and teamwork between the class.

# Historical tradition, roots of Valentine’s Day explained

By Chaplain (Maj.)  
Frank M. Hamilton  
*Base chapel*

Have you remembered to buy your beloved those delicious chocolates for Valentine’s Day? If not, please finish this article before you run to the store for some last minute shopping.

The celebration of Saint Valentine’s Day in mid-February traces its beginnings to ancient Rome. According to Roman legend, Romulus and Remus were two orphaned brothers reared by a female wolf in a cave. These men later founded Rome. Because the wolf was important to Rome’s founding, the Romans honored the wolf with a festival called Lupercania.

Therefore, each Feb. 15, the Luperci priests gathered on the hill outside of Rome, at the cave of Lupercal (where Romulus and Remus were reared). At the door of the cave, several goats and a dog were sacrificed. Then, two

youths of noble birth were brought forward. Their foreheads were smeared with blood and then wiped off with sheep’s wool dipped in milk. The youth were then supposed to laugh and run through the streets lashing the people of Rome with the skins of the sacrificed goats.

Women would try to be lashed by these children because they believed that this lashing would purify them and increase their fertility. This purification was called the feburatio, from which we get February.

Legend said that around Feb. 14, the birds choose their mates for the year. On the idea that man should imitate the birds, a mating (or lovers’) day was born.

During Lupercalia, the names of all unmarried women in a particular village were entered into a lottery. Their names were placed in a box and the eligible men of the village would draw the names of the women. The woman would

then spend the day with the man who drew her name.

As Christianity became more influential, the Church sought a way to clean up Lupercalia, with its sacrifice, blood, lashings and emphasis on fertility. The Church looked for a saint to emphasize rather than a wolf. St. Valentine was chosen because he not only rejected Roman gods, but because he was

killed for his Christian faith Feb. 14, the eve of this celebration.

Looking through Church history, we find several saints who were named Valentine and who were executed for their faith. One St. Valentine was a priest who defied the Roman emperor, Claudius II. When soldiers were needed to fight, Claudius II decreed that no

one could be married or engaged until the war was over. The kindly priest Valentine defied the emperor’s decree and secretly married a number of young couples. When this was discovered,

Valentine was arrested and put to death.

There is another story of a man named Valentine who also lived during the reign of Claudius II. During Claudius II’s

great persecution of Christians, this St. Valentine helped hide and feed endangered Christians. This Valentine was seized and put into prison, and was tortured in an attempt to make him recant his faith in Jesus Christ. During Valentine’s imprisonment, the jailer and his family were so impressed by Valentine’s Christian

faith that they secretly became Christians themselves.

Valentine was especially kind to the jailer’s blind daughter and through the power of God, miraculously restored her sight. The morning of his execution, St. Valentine left the jailer’s daughter a note, thanking her for her kindness. He signed this note simply, “Your Valentine.”

Of the things we might learn from the life of St. Valentine is the importance of expressing thanks to those who show us kindness. We often fail to say “thank you” to those who have sacrificed to make our lives better. Each of us, regardless of rank, gender or race, likes to be appreciated by others.

Monday, as we celebrate Valentine’s Day, may we remember and truly appreciate those who have helped us to get to where we are in life.

Also, may we express to these “encouragers” our appreciation of

***As we celebrate St. Valentines Day Monday, may we remember and truly appreciate those who have helped us to get to where we are in life.***

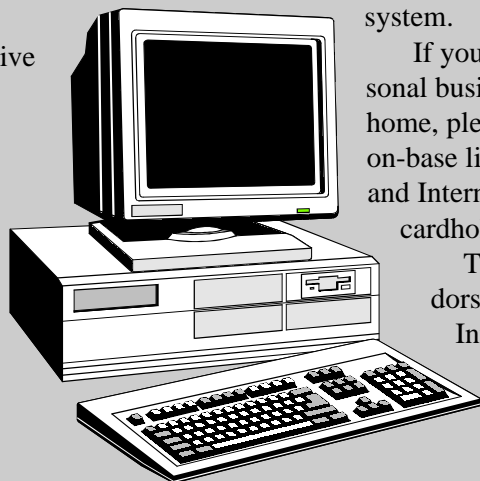


## 'Computers' from page 1

- Visit Internet chat rooms or open discussion forums (unless officially sanctioned);
- Use your computer for personal financial gain (e.g., e-bay sales, stock trades)
- Send/receive personal e-mail (except as authorized by your supervisor IAW AFI 33-119, paragraph 3.3.2);
- Send harassing, intimidating, abusive or offensive material to or about others
- Install unofficial software or software in violation of the vendor's license Use another person's account or identity without authorization
- Permit any unauthorized individual access.
- Store or process classified material on an unclassified system
- View, change, damage, delete, or block another's access to files/communications.

If caught misusing your government computer, disciplinary action can be taken against you. For military personnel, this typically means an Article 15 or letter of reprimand, depending on the nature and severity of the misuse.

Beyond the immediate punishment, disci-



plinary action can also have lasting career consequences. It can effectively limit your ability to compete for promotion or a command assignment. It may also trigger removal from a promotion and/or PME list, or even result in administrative separation. For civilians, the consequences can be equally significant under the civilian disciplinary system.

If you need to use a computer for personal business and you don't have one at home, please consider that most local and on-base libraries now have free computer and Internet access available for cardholders to use.

There are also commercial vendors who provide computers and Internet access for an hourly fee.

My message in pointing these things out to you is not to lecture, but simply to ask you to think twice every time you use your government computer.

Monitoring systems are in place that can, and do, track what you send, as well as which Internet sites you visit. Please don't take a chance on potentially ruining the career you have spent a lifetime building.

It's simply not a risk worth taking.

(Courtesy AMC News Service)

## Laughlin AFAS provides nearly \$75,000 in aid in 1999

By Tech. Sgt. Amy Urban

47th Mission Support Squadron

The Laughlin Air Force Aid Society contributed almost \$75,000 to support base members through emergency assistance, educational grants and community enhancement programs in 1999. The following is a breakdown of the funds distribution here:

### Emergency Assistance:

Loans	\$35,619.16
Grants	\$6,357.79

### Education:

Grants Awarded  
\$13,500

### Community Enhancement Programs:

Bundles for Babies	\$3,780
Car Care Because We Care	\$459
Child Care for PCS	\$85
Child Care for Volunteers	\$3,102.43
Give Parents a Break	\$6,229.50
Nursing Moms	\$5,281.68
Time- Life Books	\$265.20

**Total Assistance \$74,679.76**

If you need assistance or know someone who does, call the command post at 298-5167, or the Family Support Center at 5620 or 703-0720 (cell phone).

## 'History' from page 3

nine states. Subjecting themselves to verbal abuse, physical violence and unjust arrest, thousands of black and white students peacefully demonstrated to end segregation in restaurants, theaters, concert halls and public transportation and called for equality in housing, health care and education. Their story of conscience and conviction and their ultimate triumph continue to inspire us today.

The theme of this year's African American History Month is "Heritage and Horizons: The African American Legacy and the Challenges of the 21st Century." It is a reminder that the new century on which we have just embarked offers us a unique opportunity to write our own chapter in the history of African Americans and of our Nation. We can use this time of extraordinary prosperity and peace to widen the circle of opportunity in America, to recognize that our society's rich diversity is one of our greatest strengths and to unite around the fundamental

values that we all share as Americans. We can teach our children that America's story has been written by men and women of every race, creed and ethnic background. And, we can ensure that our laws, actions and words honor the rights and dignity of every human being.

Now, therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 2000 as National African American History Month.

I call upon public officials, educators, librarians and all people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities and programs that raise awareness and appreciation of African American history.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fourth.

## 'Attitude' from page 3

tion. We all have total control of how we respond to any given situation. The Bible (the ultimate Dash One?) says, "Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (James 1:2-4). Controlling how we respond to a crisis situation and maintaining a positive attitude will help ensure we achieve desired performance.

■ Realize that the "rough weather" will not last forever. When we're in the middle of rough weather, we begin to lose perspective of the situation, and allow the problems to become all consuming. If we can remember that the crisis will not last forever, we can keep an objective perspective and have more control of our response to the crisis. This will help us maintain a positive attitude, thus allowing us to achieve the level of performance we desire. Again, back to life's Dash One. "And let us not grow weary in well doing, for in due season we

shall reap, if we do not lose heart." (Galatians 6:9). By maintaining control of our attitude and riding out the crisis, we can ensure we achieve our desired level of performance.

■ Try to make major decisions before the storm. Just as a pilot will check the weather before his planned flight, and continue to check the radar during flight, we should also be checking all of the resources available to us. Experience will teach us that many of our rough times can be avoided by thinking and planning ahead. Although we can't predict and avoid every crisis situation, many times our troubles and "rough weather" are a result of our own poor planning and not the conditions that surround our lives.

The Bible makes this point clear in the Book of Proverbs. "Prepare your work outside, get everything ready for you in the field; and after that build your house." (Proverbs 24:27) By planning ahead and making decisions before crisis situations occur, we can maintain our positive attitude and reach our desired results.

■ Keep in contact with the control tower. Our natural reaction in a crisis situation is to

try to resolve the problem on our own, with our own limited resources. Just as pilots need to communicate with the control tower, especially during an emergency, we also need to communicate, either physically or spiritually, with knowledgeable people during these tough times. This may involve asking for advice from your supervisor, mentor or your own informal peer network. Everybody should have their own network of colleagues that they can go to for "control tower guidance."

From my own experience, a small accountability group of confidants provides valuable advice and guidance, which go a long way in helping maintain a positive attitude. The Book of Proverbs says . . . "Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom for the future." (Proverbs 19:20) If we maintain contact with knowledgeable people, and try not to solve all our problems with our own limited resources, we can maintain a proper attitude in life.

By following John Maxwell's four rules for maintaining a positive attitude, we can ensure our attitude is resulting in the level of performance we desire.



# Farewell, No. 58!

## Air Force loses a friend, a hero, in Derrick Thomas

By Tech. Sgt. Ginger Schreitmüller

*Air Force Special Operations Command Public Affairs*

While attending a conference, I heard the news that Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Derrick Thomas had died Tuesday. The professional football player had suffered a heart attack while recovering from injuries sustained in a car accident.

His death doesn't just impact the sports community, it impacts the Air Force family.

Maybe once in all our lives we meet a person who touches us in an extraordinary way. They are the true heroes of our world.

In 1997, while stationed at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, I had the chance to meet Derrick Thomas. The pro football player was in Hawaii for his eighth straight appearance in the Pro Bowl. Though my job as an Air Force public affairs specialist means I often get the chance to interview senior military leaders, rarely do I get the chance to talk with a celebrity or superstar athlete. But, when I learned why Derrick was visiting Hickam I was excited about interviewing him and telling the Air Force his amazing story — and the story of his father.

Capt. Robert Thomas was a U.S. Air Force pilot on a B-52G Stratofortress when his aircraft was shot down over North Vietnam in 1972 during Operation Linebacker II. The captain was listed as missing in action

for nearly six years before his remains were identified through the U.S. Army Central Identification Lab in Hawaii and returned to his family in 1978. Derrick wanted to visit the lab to learn more about a father he never knew and the agency that helped bring his dad home again.

I had the pleasure of spending the day with Derrick, talking and listening. I heard the stories of a young boy growing up without his dad. Instead of tinges of anger and hurt, Derrick talked with pride about the sacrifices his father and so many others made in a war many felt we never should have been involved with. I heard the man talk about how honored he was to be a part of the Air Force family and how proud he was of all those who have and continue to serve. I saw a different man than the defensive linebacker who sacked and racked his opponents and filled every inch of his Kansas City Chiefs' uniform.

The day after his visit to Hickam and the lab, Derrick would appear on ESPN. But, he didn't talk about the Pro Bowl or football. He talked about his dad and thanked the Air Force for affording him the opportunity to visit the Central Identification Lab. Throughout the interview, Derrick proudly wore a U.S. Air Force "Aim High" hat. He was an unsolicited, from-the-heart supporter of the Air Force people and mission.

Now, three years later, I saw Derrick's image on the television once again...this time it was the news of his



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Jim Katzaman

In this 1996 Air Force photo, Thomas accepts an aircrew scarf from Gen. (now retired) Walter Kross, then commander in chief of U.S. Transportation Command, before a Kansas City Chiefs-Denver Broncos game. The scarf was from the 96th Bomb Squadron, Barksdale Air Force Base, La., which flew B-52s in the Desert Strike mission against Iraq earlier in September.

death. Only 33 years old, Derrick's short life left an invaluable imprint on many people, on and off the football field.

Defining a hero isn't as easy as finding the entry in Webster's Dictionary. True heroes aren't molded or trained. The world has lost a great athlete. The Air Force has lost a member of its family — and a friend. And, like his father whose name is etched on the Vietnam Memorial, the nation has lost a true hero.

(Courtesy, Air Force Print News)

## EAST, Inc. employees team up to rescue injured bird of prey here

Two employees of Eagle Aviation Services and Technology, Inc. recently teamed up to rescue an injured bird of prey on base.

Dale Powers, an appliance mechanic for military family housing, was returning from his lunch break Feb. 4 when he noticed the sparrow hawk (also known as a kestrel) in obvious distress, fluttering around on the ground in the officer housing area. Rather than wait for someone to call in a request, he took the ini-

tiative to carefully capture and wrap the wounded bird in his jacket. Powers took the hawk to the EAST, Inc., office area, where Shawn Moseley, facilities maintenance manager, began making phone calls to arrange veterinary care of the bird.

The calls revealed the only veterinarian in the area who deals with birds is located in Uvalde, a 70-mile drive from Laughlin. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department personnel explained to Moseley that they could not take

the bird there until Monday.

Feeling that the bird might not make it through the weekend without care, Moseley volunteered to transport the injured hawk to Uvalde. Moseley took the bird to the office of Dr. John Barnes that afternoon.

Thursday, Barnes said the bird is eating and regaining strength. While still unsure of the reason for the ketchel's condition, the doctor said that the bird's condition indicates it may have ingested some type of toxin.

The veterinarian credited Powers and Moseley with saving the bird's life. "He (the ketchel) would not have survived in the wild in his condition," Barnes said. "He would have been unable to feed himself."

Base personnel should keep in mind that all birds of prey (eagles, hawks, and kestrels) are protected under federal and Texas laws. If you see an injured wild animal on base, call the 47th Civil Engineer Squadron customer service desk at 5488.



Photo by James Suarez

This injured sparrow hawk, or kestrel, was rescued by two EAST, Inc. employees.

**‘Seat belts,’ from page 1**

Everyone pays for unbelted drivers and passengers involved in crashes. Crashes increase costs for auto, health and disability insurance.

Seat belts have proven to be effective. The use of seat belts

is estimated to save nearly 9,500 lives each year. But, progress to increase seatbelt use has slowed. Most deaths of children could be averted if they were properly restrained in a child safety seat. Tragically, many who die will be children because automobile crashes are the leading cause of

death in children. Crashes are particularly hard on unbuckled children. In a 30 mile-per-hour crash, a child riding unrestrained is hit with a force equivalent to falling from a third story window.

Sadly, adults who don’t buckle up are sending children a deadly message that it is all

right not to use seat belts. Research shows that when a driver is unbuckled, 70 percent of the time children in that vehicle are unbuckled as well.

Don’t risk being responsible for your death or the death of a loved one. Encourage the use of seatbelts – it’s the law.

## Safety seat checkup

■ **Does your child ride in the back seat?** The back seat is generally the safest place in a crash. If your vehicle has a passenger air bag, it is essential for children 12 and under to ride in back.

■ **Does your child ride facing the right way?** Infants should ride in rear facing restraints, preferably in the back seat, until about age 1 and at least 20-22 lbs. Infants who weigh 20 lbs. before one year of age should ride in a restraint approved for higher rear facing weights. Always read your child restraint owner’s manual for instructions on properly using the restraint. Children over age 1 and at least 20 pounds may ride facing forward.

■ **Does the safety belt hold the seat tightly in place?** Put the belt through the right slot. If your safety seat can be used facing either way, use the correct belt slots for each direction. The safety belt must stay tight when securing the safety seat. Check the vehicle owner’s manual for tips on using the safety belts.

(Courtesy, 47 FTW safety)

**‘Vision,’ from page 2**

employees, Air Force Reservists and contractors in meeting our mission. It allows each individual – the airman at the front gate monitoring access to the installation, the medical technician scheduling an appointment, the finance clerk processing a travel voucher, the childcare center teacher preparing a lesson plan and the fitness center manager scheduling special events – to better understand and appreciate the importance of his or her contribution to the wing and its mission.

Although each of us has different duties, the vision statement makes it clear that it takes a team commitment to meet our mission.

In the coming weeks, I will follow up with an article on the wing’s goals and mission-essential tasks.

# Children who sleep with baby bottles may suffer tooth decay

By Capt. Paul F.T. Ayson

47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

It's common among parents to give their baby a bottle of milk, fruit juice or sweetened liquids when their babies get really fussy. It's also common to give the baby a bottle during bedtime.

By practicing these habits, a baby's teeth may begin to decay. This is known as baby bottle tooth decay or nursing bottle decay.

Baby bottle tooth decay often occurs in the upper front teeth, however, other teeth can also be involved. BBTD

usually occurs when teeth are exposed to sweetened liquid for prolonged periods of time. Sugars in these sweetened liquids

serve as food for the bacteria present in the baby's mouth.

Once utilized, the bacteria will then produce this sticky acid substance, also known as plaque, which attacks the teeth. Such liquids may include mil, formula or fruit juices. Every time the teeth are exposed to these liquids, they are exposed for at least twenty minutes of acid attack before being neutralized.

Studies have shown that it takes at least 40 minutes for the acid in the mouth to be neutralized by saliva. In addition to the type of liquid you put in your baby's mouth, frequencies of exposure to these

liquids play a role as well..

Tooth decay can occur as soon as the teeth appear in the mouth. Sometimes, by the time the tooth is noticed, it may be too late to save the teeth.

Following these tips can help prevent BBTD:

After each feeding, wipe the baby's gums with a clean damp washcloth or gauze pad. As soon as the first tooth has erupted, start brushing. Clean and massage gums in areas that remain toothless and begin flossing when all the baby teeth have erupted.

Don't allow your child to sleep with a bottle containing mil, formula or any sweetened liquid.

If the child needs a comforter between feedings and at naptimes, give the child a bottle of cool water or a clean pacifier recommended by a dentist or physician. Remember do not dip the pacifier in any type of sweet liquid.

Do not fill the baby or child's bottle with sugar water or soda.

If the local water does not have fluoride, ask your dentist if the child needs supplemental fluoride treatment.

Start dental visits by the child's first birthday. Make these visits regularly. If dental problems occur, take your child or baby to the dentist as soon as possible.



## February recognized as National Children's Dental Health month

February is National Children's Dental Health Month.

The following is a list of activities planned for the coming weeks:

### **Feb. 14-15**

From 9 to 11 a.m., preventive dentistry presentations will be made at the Ruben Chavirra Elementary School.

### **Feb. 16**

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., preventive dentistry presentations will be given at the St. James Episcopal Schools.

### **Feb. 16**

From 6 to 7 p.m., preventive dentistry presentations will be given at the Amistad Women's Center.

### **Feb. 17**

From 9 to 11:30 a.m., preventive dentistry presentations will be given at the Calderon Elementary School.

### **Feb. 18**

From 9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., preventive dentistry presentations will be given at the Lamar Elementary School.

### **Feb. 22-24**

From 9 to 11 a.m., preventive dentistry presentations will be given at the Cardswell Headstart Program.

### **Feb. 25**

From 9 to 10 a.m., preventive dentistry presentations will be given at the Child Development Center.

### **Feb. 26**

From 1 to 4 p.m., a dental program will be explained at the base theater with the Dental Clinic providers and staff.

Door prizes will be given away after the presentations to those who attend.



**Base members take the time to salute the nation's veterans for their sacrifices by participating in ...**

# Valentines for Vets

*47th Flying  
Training Wing*

**By Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton**  
*Air Education and Training  
Command commander*

Time can be considered a precious commodity, but also one of the greatest gifts we can give. Please join me in saluting hospitalized veterans by giving them the gift of time and by participating in the Air Force and AETC "Valentines for Vets" program Feb. 14-20.

The program supports the Veterans Affairs' 2000 National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans, and offers opportunities to pay tribute and express appreciation to veterans in VA medical facilities. Activities for the week may include special ward visits, greeting card and letter distributions and some special recreation programs.

Visiting with veterans is an opportunity to share life experiences for all involved. All too often, the only visitors our veterans may see are during these few days set aside each year. They deserve much more – they deserve our deepest respect and appreciation for their contributions to this nation. Their sacrifices were many, and should not be forgotten.

As each base establishes a long-term partnership program with the nearest VA facility, I encourage each member to develop a relationship with the residents that will continue long after the Salute ends.

Let's take the time to say "thanks."

**(Courtesy AETC  
News Service)**



Photo by Senior Airman Mike Hammond

Faith Clark, Child Development Center education technician, gives Mason Hitchcock, 1, a little encouragement in creating a Valentine for a U.S. veteran.

*"I would like to personally thank all the members of Team "XL" who opened their hearts to our veterans this Valentine's Day. Your spirit of giving shows our veterans how much their sacrifice through the years means to all of us, and lets them know they are not forgotten by those who enjoy the freedom they fought to provide."*

**- Col. Len Jarman**

*47th Flying Training Wing vice commander*



Photo by Zenaphir Bond

Dario Yanosko shows his work off to Johnny Sanders in the classroom at Ruben Chavira Elementary School. The efforts of children from Laughlin and Del Rio will help ensure hospitalized veterans have something to brighten their day.



Photo by Senior Airman Mike Hammond

Travis Jaworski, 4, places his "stamp of approval" on a Valentine he made at the CDC.





Photo by Senior Airman Mike Hammond

Odilia Ervin, CDC program assistant, helps Tori Cooper, 1, coloring her Valentine. Children of all age groups participated in making Valentines for our veterans.



Photo by Zenaphir Bond

Joey Cavazos, a second grader at Ruben Chavira Elementary School, shows 2nd Lt. Sharon Evans, 47th Operations Support Squadron, his Valentine contribution.



Photo by Zenaphir Bond

Senior Airman Nicole Hammond, 47th Mission Support Squadron, sorts out and organizes Valentines from the CDC and the Youth Center prior to shipment. Many organizations donated Valentines and various personal items to the hospitalized veterans.

*The 47th Flying Training Wing  
public affairs office thanks  
the Laughlin and Del Rio communities  
for your efforts to make Valentine's  
Day special for our veterans.*

*Donations were:*

- More than \$700 cash (used to purchase items for veterans' gift baskets);
- More than 350 hand-made Valentine's cards;
- More than 200 personal hygiene items needed by the VA hospital.

**Thank  
You!**



# Base Honor Guard seeks new volunteers to compensate for manning constraints, increasing military funerals

By Staff Sgt. Michael A. Radke  
Honor Guard NCOIC

A handful of friends and relatives came to feel the physical presence of an Air Force loved one for the last time. The honor guard places the casket to the lowering device, and folds the United States flag with ceremonial perfection. The deep solitude of the gravesite service is interrupted as the sound of rifles is heard for miles during a final gun salute. The loud silence of

hearts and emotions is pure, as the sound of TAPS echoes the gravesite in rare communion. A single guardsman carries the folded flag to be presented, and the power of its long tradition is felt deeply by all in attendance. As the guardsman walks away from the gravesite, the reverence of the ceremony can be felt without even turning around to see the tears left behind. This is not the ending of a Hollywood movie ... this is the true-to-life impact of your base honor guard performing a military honors funeral.

The Laughlin honor guard is a special ceremonial unit, that provides services at functions and ceremonies where a uniformed presence of the Air Force is proper and fitting. Their duties entail, but are not limited to, funerals, parades, changes of command and retirement ceremonies. The area of responsibility that your honor guard represents is more than 35,000 square miles of Texas.

Each year, the honor guard has seen a substantial increase in the amount of details performed. Last year became the most productive year in the history of this proud wing organization. With only one third of fiscal year 2000 completed, the honor guard has seen a 15 percent increase in base and community functions, and a 150 percent increase in military funerals performed compared to last year.

The Laughlin honor guard, currently comprised of only 17 members, feels the pinch of increasing work as manning levels decrease. But with highly polished perfection, the honor guard has made a name for itself from Del Rio to Washington, D.C., and beyond. Parades, memorials, Eagle Scout inductions, high school Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs and Prisoner of War/Missing in Action ceremonies only be-

each member brings to this elite unit.

With the recent signing of the National Defense Act, Congress has enacted a law that now mandates each department of the Armed Forces to carry out military honors for their respective veterans and retirees upon the request from the next of kin to funeral directors. This milestone in American military history is expected to increase the amount of Air Force funerals by 800 percent. Currently, more than 25 percent of the nation's 26 million veterans are over the age of 65. In 1998 the death rate of retirees and veterans averaged 1,500 per day. The death rate is estimated to climb to more than 2,000 per day within the next 10 years. In conjunction with these alarming rates, the last 10 years have seen 77 military installations close, and the Armed Forces reduced by 500,000 servicemen and women.

Throughout the base, there are dedicated individuals that possess a badge on their duty uniforms that reads, "To Honor with Dignity." This is the shield of the Laughlin Honor Guard. Wearing this badge are individuals who perform countless details yearly - regardless of the weather conditions. Their dedication to serve with honor is evident with their precision. These are proud individuals who epitomize rare qualities most sought in today's military professional.

The next time you see the honor guard performing, or notice the badge they proudly wear, remind yourself that this organization takes tremendous pride in you, the wing, the Air Force, and the respected freedom of the very soil we all walk on.

In order for the honor guard to continue its organizational mission, it is vital that new members are recruited and incorporated into the Base Honor Guard Program. This will take the undivided support, commitment and understanding of every member of Laughlin. From participating in weekly practices, to giving up a few weekends and holidays to perform in details, the members of the honor guard pride themselves with their ability "To Honor with Dignity." Pride is a personal commitment; it is an attitude that separates 'XL'ence



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

Laughlin Honor Guard trainer Staff Sgt. Kieth Baber, 47th Mission Support Squadron, instructs Airman 1st Class Deborah McCracken and other honor guard members on proper military honors. Currently, in this fiscal year the honor guard has already surpassed the total funeral details for the entire '99 fiscal year.



## From the Blotter (47th Security Forces Squadron)



**Jan. 29** – The Del Rio Police Department arrested a civilian employee for driving under the influence. In addition, the individual was in possession of two unauthorized military identification cards.

**Feb. 3** – A suspicious, unattended bag was reported in front of the Education Building.

**Feb. 3** – A patron at the XL Fitness Center reported a \$300 compact disc player was stolen from an unsecured locker.

**Feb. 5** – A Security Forces member observed four unidentified males on the railroad tracks adjacent to the main gate. Responding patrols detained the suspected illegal aliens and turned them over to the Border Patrol.

**Feb. 6** – A family member reported re-

ceiving obscene phone calls from an unknown source. There are currently no leads or suspects.

**Feb. 7** – A vehicle was reported damaged in the parking lot adjacent to the Base Operations building. The damage consisted of several scratches to the bumper.

**Feb. 8** – Base Exchange employees reported some merchandise was stolen by an individual who started running when confronted. A patron who noticed the suspect fleeing from the BX gave chase, detained the individual and turned him over to Security Forces. The stolen items were retrieved and the suspect was turned over to the Val Verde Sheriff's Office.

*EMERGENCY CALL 911, NON-EMERGENCY CALL 5100*

## 47th Medical Group

As a TRICARE Prime member, you will receive a copy of the Take Care of Yourself (TCOY) handbook upon enrollment. This handbook is a valuable tool containing information to help make decisions about your well-being. Unnecessary visits to the doctor can be avoided with the advice found in this handbook.

TCOY contains specifics to help you decide whether you should see your Primary Care Manager (PCM) or if you can treat illness. Studies show that many visits to the physician may be unnecessary because people are unaware of home remedies. With the handbook, you can learn to work, and build a partnership with your PCM.

The TCOY handbook is a guide to medical self-care, including:

- Developing habits leading to good health
- Making wise preventive health care decisions
- Responding decisively to newly arisen medical problems

When you look up your symptoms, you will find an explanation of probable causes, the symptom's seriousness and how you might treat the problem yourself. Simple decision charts show you when you need to see your PCM and when to treat symptoms yourself.

The TCOY handbook covers a wide selection of topics including exercise, diet, nutrition, immunizations, checkups, properly using over-the-counter medications and avoiding potentially fatal diseases. It is full of information to help you make intelligent judgments about your own well being. TCOY is not intended to replace your physician's advice, but to complement it. As a TRICARE Prime member, use your handbook to take control of your own health.

# Club members enjoy free Super Bowl trip

By Tech. Sgt.  
Randy L. Mitchell  
*Air Force Print News*

Five people discovered Air Force club membership truly does pay when they found themselves gathered to attend Super Bowl XXXIV with family and friends.

Each had taken the time to fill out entry forms for Football Frenzy, while watching a National Football League game at their respective base clubs. The extra effort paid off when they were each notified they had won a free trip to the Super Bowl courtesy of Air Force Clubs — a division of Air Force Services Agency. They were selected from among 20,000 people who had entered the contest.

The winners and their guests were: Capt. Robert Ikerd, Aviano Air Base, Italy, and his brother, Michael, from Kalamazoo, Mich.; retired Master Sgt. Clifford “Mac” McCoy, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, and his friend, retired Master Sgt. Robert Allen; Tech. Sgt. Gary Davis of Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla., along with his wife, Linda, and son, William; Senior Airman Twyla

“Tee” Khan of Robins AFB, Ga., and her husband, Senior Airman Ezra Khan; and Senior Airman Patricia Whitney of Osan AB, Republic of Korea, and her husband, Jeff, of Portsmouth, N.H.

In addition to airfare, accommodations and game tickets, the five winners and their guests were also treated to an exclusive reception and provided rental cars to enjoy their stay in Atlanta.

They were also treated to several Super Bowl parties hosted by Miller Brewing Company, where they were provided free food and refreshments.

“We’re happy to be considered a part of the Air Force family,” said Dave Jaeschke, national military manager for Miller Brewing. “This is an opportunity for us to help show appreciation for Air Force people supporting their base clubs.”

Besides the parties, each winner also received tickets to

other Super Bowl events and were chauffeured to a pre-game party in a limousine. After the game and a post-game party, hosted by Miller Brewing Company, the same limo took them back to their hotel.

Al Sonnenburg, marketing specialist for Air Force Services Agency, said

**“Football Frenzy is a way to increase the value of club membership. It’s also a way to give back to our customers.”**

**—Al Sonnenburg**  
*Air Force Services Agency*

the annual event — in its fifth year — began as a way to enhance club membership and provide benefits for club members. The competition is open to all

club members in good standing, he added.

“Football Frenzy is a way to increase the value of club membership,” said Sonnenburg. “It’s also a way to give back to our customers.”

“Of course, none of this could be possible without the tremendous support and generosity we receive from the sponsors who make this possible,”

added Sonnenburg. This year’s sponsors were SatoTravel, Miller Brewing Co., American Airlines and Best Western.

Ikerd said he was happy to spend the time with his brother, and for the “once in a lifetime opportunity” to attend the Superbowl.

“It’s hard to remain close (with Mike) while stationed overseas,” Ikerd said. “But these five days have helped to bridge the miles between us. Many thanks to those involved.”

The last word of thanks, however, belonged to Col. Horace Larry, Air Force Services Agency commander.

“The real thanks goes to each of our winners,” he said at the reception. “You’re the ones who make this possible by supporting Air Force clubs ... congratulations and good on you!”

This season, winners were also selected to attend to the Atlanta Falcons vs. San Francisco 49ers game in San Francisco, as well as the Pro Bowl in Honolulu, Hawaii. Additionally, base clubs around the Air Force gave out more than 15,000 gifts ranging from footballs to embroidered sports shirts.

## Intramural basketball standings

### Eastern conference

Teams	W	L
CES	2	0
87 FTS	1	0
LCSAM	1	1
OSS I	0	1
SFS	0	1

### Western conference

Teams	W	L
CS/SVS	2	0
MDG	2	0
86 FTS	1	1
MSS	0	2
OSS II	0	2

## Bowling standings

OSS	103	37
CES	87	53
SFS	85	55
SVS	74	66
MDG	69	71
Boeing	67	73
FTW	60	80
CDC	58	82
MSS	57	83
CS	40	100

For those interested in forming an indoor soccer league during the summer, contact Senior Airman Luis Pimentel at 5326.



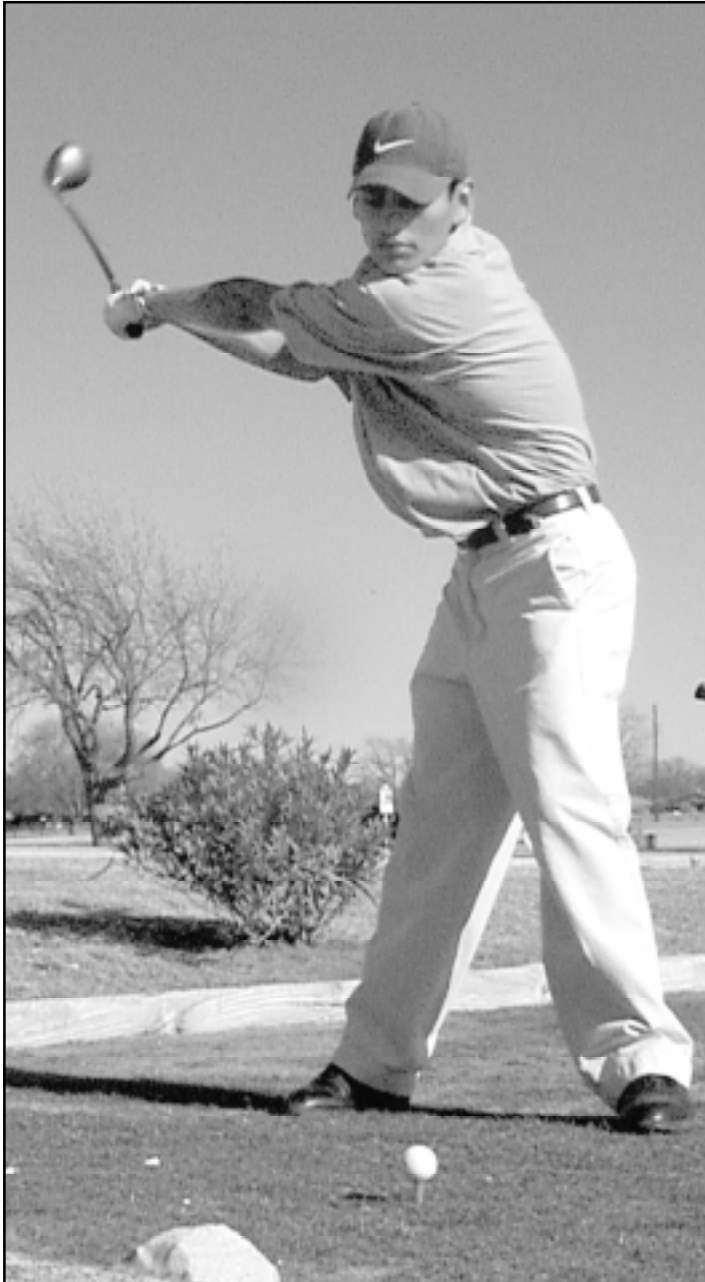


Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

## Be the ball

Aaron DeLeo of Alpine High School tees off during the Del Rio High School golf tournament held at Leaning Pines Golf Course Friday. The base golf course is open from 7:30 a.m. until dark.

## 87th Flying Training Squadron defeats 85 FTS in flag football championship

By Airman 1st Class

**Brad Pettit**

Staff writer

The 87th Flying Training Squadron defeated the 85th Flying Training Squadron 21-14 in the intramural flag football championship game Monday at the base football field.

The game was the second and final match-up between the two teams in a two-loss elimination bracket. After the 87th was defeated in the first championship game, both squadrons had one loss - making each team one win away from leaving with the trophy.

The score remained close throughout the final game, but the 87th managed to run the clock out while in the lead following a beautiful touchdown pass from quarterback Eric Pharris to receiver Michael Shepherd up the middle.

Though the 87th finished strong, they couldn't get anything going on their first possession. After a sack, an incomplete pass and a couple of short screens, the 85th took over on its own 30 yard-line.

On third down, quarterback Jake Razor was rushed and flushed out of the pocket, when he scampered 50 yards into the end zone to post the first points of the game in favor of the 85th.

Down by seven, the 87th struck back when Pharris connected with Marc Stitzel on a 30-

yard post pattern to tie the game.

However, the 85th quickly regained its lead with a 35-yard pass to J.J. McConnell, who ran for another 10 yards into the end zone to up the score to 14-7.

After a series of short passes for the 87th, it appeared the 85th was in control. However, on third down following a near-sack, Pharris was forced to throw the ball and launched a tight spiral, which Shepherd was able to pull down in the end zone to tie it up at 14.

The 85th attempted to regain the lead in the following series, but was forced to punt after three incomplete passes. Then, with the 87th in control of the ball and with time running out, Pharris threw a dump pass up the middle - again to Shepherd - for the touchdown and 21-14 lead.

With seconds left, 85 FTS couldn't get anything going and turned the ball over on fourth down. The 87th took over possession and ran the clock out to end the game.

"They outplayed us in the second half," said Randy Yovanovich, 85 FTS. "They really deserved to win."

"The Tweet guys popped us last game," said Pharris. "We took time on the weekend to really study what they were doing. They still scored on almost every possession, but we managed to stop them a couple of times - which helped us win."



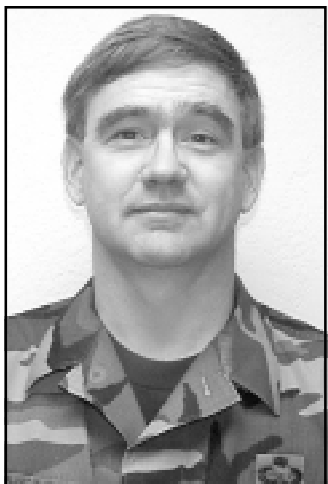
## Question of the week

### What is the best Valentine's Day gift you have ever given or received?



"I took my wife on a train trip to a historical town and we had dinner at a historical restaurant."

**Maj. Ronald G. Rednour**  
*84th Flying Training Squadron*



"I had a 179-day temporary duty assignment shortened by 30 days, which allowed me to be home with my wife for Valentine's Day."

**Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Enyeart**  
*47th Communications Squadron*



"After I was married for 8 months, my husband sent me long-stemmed red roses. One for each month that we were married."

**Staff Sgt. Mary Davis**  
*XL Fitness Center*



"A kiss and hug from my mom."

**Ryan Jennings**  
*Family member*

## PA notes

- Publication deadline for items submitted to the Border Eagle is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, one week prior to the issue you want the item to appear in.
- The public affairs office will be closed for training Fridays at 2:30 p.m.

For more information, call 5262.

## BHC gospel jubilee

The Laughlin Black Heritage Committee is sponsoring its twenty-third annual gospel jubilee at the base chapel Sunday at 3 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

## B-2 flyby

A B-2 stealth bomber will conduct flybys over the Laughlin airfield at approximately 3 p.m. Thursday.

## Communication class

The Laughlin Life Skills Clinic and the Family Advocacy Program is offering a couples communication course – Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program. The course, which consists of six classes, will be offered Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Life Skills Clinic classroom in the 47th Medical Group. The course is scheduled to end March 7.

For more information or to register, call 298-6422.

## Federal Women's Program

The Federal Women's Program will have a table at the Anything Goes Flea Market Feb. 26. Funds raised will be used for the upcoming March Women's History Month activities. Items are needed for the flea market. If you have items you would like to donate, call Barbara Voss at 5590. Pickup of donated items is possible.

## Missing painting

If you have information on the whereabouts of an oil painting of a C-47 in flight, please call 1st Lt. Melissa Cunningham at 5293.

## Parenting class

The Laughlin Life Skills Clinic is offering common sense parenting classes Mondays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the LSC conference room. Bring a brown bag lunch!

- Monday – Session 1: *Parents as Teachers*
- Feb. 14 – Session 2: *Effective Praise*
- Feb. 28 – Session 3: *Preventive Teaching*
- March 6 – Session 4: *Corrective Teaching*
- March 13 – Session 5: *Teaching Self-Control*
- March 20 – Session 6: *Putting It all Together*

This is a fun, practical and skills-based workshop focusing on personal development of parents along with growth of their children and the entire family!

## Information Assurance

Lt. Gen William J. Donohue, Air Force director of communications and information, has proclaimed February as Information Assurance Month. The theme for this year's plan is titled, "Information Assurance in the New Millennium." As a reminder to all government computer users, per AFI 33-129, *Transmission of Information Via the Internet*, you are only allowed to visit Internet sites



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

## Goin' deep!

Will Milligan, Cross Diving Company, sterilizes the suit of diver Randy Busby Friday on top of one of the base water tanks. Moments later, Busby descended into the tank to vacuum sediment from the bottom.

needed for you to conduct your official duties.

Any questions about this or other information assurance concerns please call Frederick Ervin at 4271.

## Hours change

The hours of operation for Val Verde Regional Medical Center acute care clinic have changed. They are now:

- 2 to 10 p.m., Monday through Friday, and
- 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

## ECSC shopping trip

The Enlisted and Civilian Spouses Club is sponsoring a San Marcos Factory Outlet/Garden Ridge shopping trip March 18. Transportation will be equipped with a restroom and TV/VCR. There are 55 seats available on a first come, first served basis. A continental breakfast and refreshments will be provided and there will be a stop for dinner. Departure will be at 6 a.m. from the Fiesta Center, with a return by 9 p.m.

This trip is open to all active duty, dependents, retirees and civilians. The cost is \$20 for ECSC members and \$25 for non-members. Payment for trip is due no later than March 1. To sign up, please contact Betty Hardy at 298-7041 or Sheri Robinson at 298-4769.

## OSC/ECSC cookbook sale

The Laughlin Officers Spouse Club/Enlisted and Civilian Spouse Club wing cookbooks are available while supplies last!

The book offers 564 recipes for \$10.

For more information or to order, contact Laurie

Frampton at 298-2127 or Tracy Jarman at 298-0497.

## Education notes

■ Active duty personnel interested in taking the Scholastic Aptitude Test or the American College Testing Assessment should contact the Laughlin Education Office at 5545.

The ACT is scheduled for Feb. 11 at 8 a.m., and the SAT is scheduled for Feb. 18 at 8 a.m. Those taking the exam should stop by the education center to pick up their respective test packets prior to testing.

■ Interested in taking the CLEP English Composition with essay? It is free for active duty military and \$44 for civilians. It is tentatively scheduled for April 14 at 8 a.m. in the education center. The sign up deadline is March 1. Call 5545 for more details or to sign up.

## OSC millennium celebration

All members, spouses and guests are invited to celebrate the first valentines of the millennium in style Feb. 12. Social hour will begin at 6:30 p.m. and continue with a gourmet dinner buffet at 7 p.m. There will be music trivia, dancing, door prizes, keepsake "2000" glasses and more. The cost is \$15 per person. For reservations, call Stacey Lilley at 768-2690.

## Group forming

The Health and Wellness Center is interested in forming a Healthy Eating/Weight Loss Support Group. If interested in attending, or for more information, call Maj. Kerri Wyble or Staff Sgt. Jenny Ruiz at 298-6364.